CORONA SA (COMOR)/DD?A?

CORONA file

Satellite

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22 December 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: CORONA Briefing of General Willems and Admiral Frost

1. This date Mr. Bissell briefed General Willems of ACSI and Admiral Frost of ONI on the CORONA Project, providing historical background information comparable to that given to General Watson of AFCIN along with information regarding the President's imposition of strictest security.

2. Mr. Bissell discussed the element of the CORONA operation most relevant to them, namely, the processing, exploitation, and security for handling the product of CORONA. He indicated his view that pending a full exploration of possibilities for sanitization the product would be in the TALENT security system on a very limited basis. He also wished the advice of the two gentlemen with regard to their own needs for the material for their own exploitation and the peculiar equipment necessary therefor. He explained that he had similarly briefed General Walsh.

3. Mr. Bissell suggested that they elect an officer, perhaps in position comparable to that of Colonel Macia of the Air Force, and a PI specialist. As soon as this is accomplished, he hoped that prior to 1 January an initial briefing could be conducted by Mr. Lundahl of the equipment currently planned for exploitation to ascertain whether the other agencies indeed desired at this time to purchase comparable equipment. Mr. Reber indicated that he had told Colonel Macia that as soon as the Army and Navy chiefs were briefed and their personnel appointed he would undertake to arrange for the briefing at HTAUTOMAT and convene all concerned to weigh the implications for security and utilization of the material.

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CONCUR:

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Intelligence Requirements Officer

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
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Director PIC (cy 2)
CIA TSO (cy 3)

Deputy Director DPS/DCI (cy 4)
SO DPS/DCI (cy 5)
PS/DCI (cys 1 and 6)
SA/PD/DCI (cy 7)

PS/DCI: JQReber: cw